



**South Central
Pennsylvania**
Genealogical Society

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Our Name's The Game

www.scpgs.org

Monthly Newsletter Vol. 42 No. 2 September/October 2016

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sunday, November 6, 2016

Flames Beyond Gettysburg

This month's meeting will be held at the Historical Society Museum, 250 East Market Street, York. A brief business meeting will begin at 2:15 PM and the program will immediately follow at approximately 2:30 PM.

In late June 1863, two powerful columns of Confederate troops approached the Susquehanna River in south-central Pennsylvania. One marched northeasterly from Franklin County through Carlisle toward Harrisburg and the other headed eastward through Gettysburg and York towards Wrightsville/Columbia. This PowerPoint talk by veteran author Scott L. Mingus Sr. will cover the latter command, that of Maj. Gen. Jubal A. Early, as it conquered Gettysburg after a series of skirmishes on June 26 and then two days later occupied York, the largest Northern town to fall to the Confederates during the entire war. General Early ransomed York for money and supplies and surrounded the town with artillery and troops. Hastily organized state militia defended the river crossing at Wrightsville and then burned the world's longest covered bridge to prevent Rebel passage into Lancaster County, from which Jubal Early had hoped to threaten Harrisburg.

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS are scheduled as follows ...

There will be no meeting in December

Sunday, January 8, 2017

Where in the World is Tolna?

This program on the York County Gazetteer will be presented by Lila Fourhman-Shaull, Director of the Library & Archives at the York County History Center.

Sunday, February 5, 2017

African American Genealogy

This program will be presented by Dr. Eric Holmes, superintendent of the York City School District.

March 2017

... North American Lecture Tour, March 4-19, 2017

Irish researchers lead by Fintan Mullan of the Ulster Historical Foundation will present this program.

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Pennsylvania Land Records

This program will be presented by Jonathan Stayer, Supervisor of Reference Services at the Pennsylvania State Archives.

Sunday, May 7, 2017

to be determined

Sunday, June 4, 2017

to be determined

From the President

Jonathan Stayer

At the 2016 annual meeting of the York County History Center on September 11, our genealogical society received a Community Heritage Award for a local historical organization. This award "recognizes associations or organizations whose activity in local and regional history serves as a role model of excellence, which have made a significant contribution in preserving, interpreting, promoting, researching or otherwise extending knowledge and understanding of the history of York County."

The programs and publications of the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society were cited as examples of this contribution. Also, the YCHC noted the longstanding partnership between that organization and our own, particularly our support of the YCHC library. In addition to providing a strong core of volunteers for the library, we have funded the purchase of archival supplies and a microfilm reader-printer. And on a regular basis, we buy books and genealogical publications for the library's collection.

Another example of our contribution to the preservation and promotion of York County history received attention at the August 31 meeting of the York County Commissioners. We presented the County with some York County records purchased by Society funds from a vendor on E-bay. These materials included an 1820 sheriff's fee book, an 1841 assigned estate inventory book for Martin Shearer, an 1828 Orphans Court real estate paper for the estate of John Filey, an 1804 Philip Gardner Orphans Court paper, Jacob Smith estate 1831 vendue list, and John Hogg's 1829 jail commitment. These items were placed in the York County Archives. The Commissioners gave our Society a gold dollar coin for this effort to return county records to their rightful home.

These times of recognition demonstrate the vitality of our organization and our importance to the York County community. With your support, we can continue to save genealogical and historical sources for future generations and make them available for research.

Genealogy: Where you confuse the dead and irritate the living.

Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania

For quite some time, the Officers and Board of The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania have envisioned moving to an office with more space. A suburban setting with train and bus access and ample parking for those who would drive.

As luck would have it, we have been propelled into living our dream. A few weeks ago we were notified that the building we have been in for the past several years, 2207 Chestnut Street, has been sold and will be demolished. All tenants need to vacate by September 14th, 2016. That has stimulated a flurry of excited activity - considering and looking at a variety of possibilities while adhering to the mandate of our charter, which is, that we remain within the bounds of Philadelphia.

We are pleased to announce that we have secured a suite of offices at 2100 Byberry Road in Northeast Philadelphia.

While we are in the midst of moving we will be continuing business as usual. As you may expect, there may be delays in the next few weeks in responding to your e-mails and phone calls, but we will reply and continue to answer your questions and provide information on resources helpful to your research.

Once established we look forward to and welcome your visit. We are excited to say the new offices provide room for additional research resources on site, in addition to a meeting room. Keep an eye out for notice of our new office hours. Our website, phone number and email addresses will remain the same.

New mailing address...

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania
2100 Byberry Road Suite 111
Philadelphia PA 19116

SCPGS Surname Directory

Thank you to all of our members who submitted their surnames along with their membership renewal. If you provided an email address, in the next several weeks you will be contacted to verify your surnames and contact information. The Surname Directory will then be updated on our website. If you have not submitted your surnames, you can always provide them via email to scpgswebsite@wildblue.net.

The County recovered five long-missing documents due to the support of an anonymous donor and the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society.

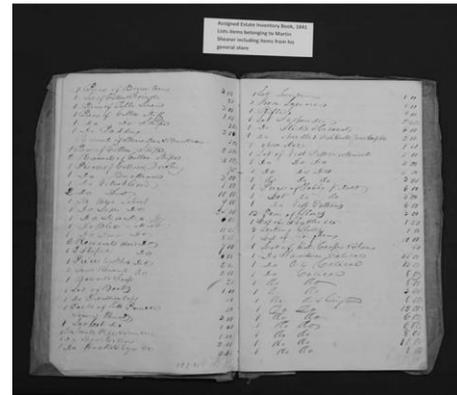


York County Commissioners Susan P Byrnes (third from right), Chris Reilly (second from left) and Doug Hoke (first on the right) are joined by Christy Depew, director of the York County Archives, (second from right) and members of the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society.

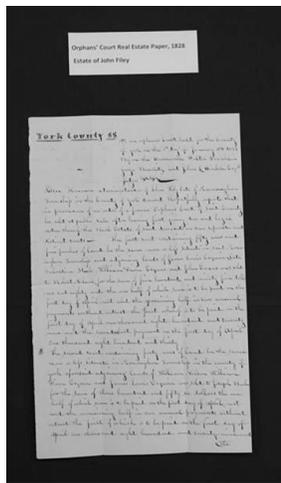
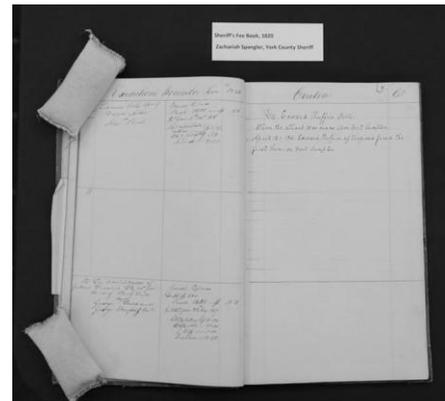
Photo provided by Carl Lindquist, Director of Communications, County of York, Pennsylvania

The following is a sample of the documents purchased and donated to the York County Archives.

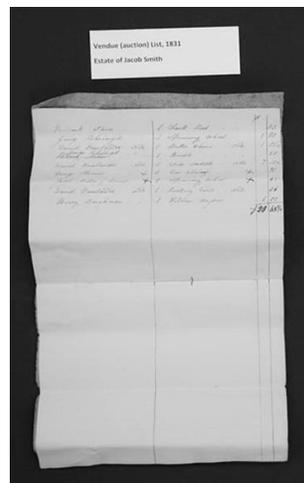
Below is an 1841 assigned estate inventory book. This is an extremely interesting document because it lists all the items Martin Shearer owned at that time. Mr. Shearer was a general store owner that had some type of financial trouble in 1841 and was in the early stages of bankruptcy. This inventory is significant to all descendants of the Shearer family and all historians because it shows what a typical general store would hold in the 1840s and the value of the items.



This sheriff's fee book from 1820 shows all the civil cases in York County for that year, along with the parties' names and fees paid.

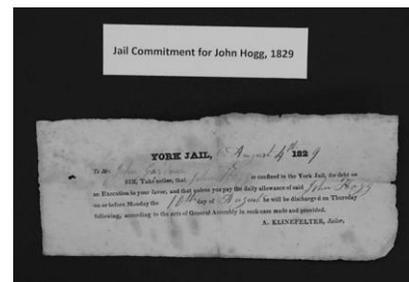


On the left is an 1828 Orphans' Court real estate paper for the estate of John Filey. This record describes his property, who purchased it and the amount for which it sold.



On the right is an 1831 vendue (auction list) from Jacob Smith's estate. This list includes all the items sold, the name of the purchaser and the price paid. In this case, Jacob Smith had an estate in both Heidelberg Township, York County and Baltimore County, Maryland.

An 1829 jail commitment for John Hogg. It appears that John was in debt and was being committed to jail to resolve the debt.



What Can DNA Tests Tell Us About Our Family History?

Darvin Martin's presentation on Sunday, August 28th was a refresher course on DNA testing.

DNA can be used to reveal one's place paternally and maternally in the world family tree. It can reveal migratory patterns, and provide the "deep ancestry" of all of the surnames in your family as long as a male relative carrying each surname has tested.

Humans have 3.3 billion base pairs of DNA, and approximately 99.9% are the same in all people. It is the 0.1 percent that interests genealogists. By studying the order, or sequence, of these bases, trends can be uncovered that help us discover genealogical evidence of ancestral connections.

The tests are simple and painless. There are three types of tests ...

Y-DNA ... also referred to as the surname test. This test looks at a segment of DNA that is passed from a father to his sons. A man's Y-chromosome would be the same as his father's Y-chromosome, his paternal grandfather's Y-chromosome, and so forth. Women do not have Y-chromosomes, so these genetic tests will only provide information about paternal lineage. If a woman was curious about her father's lineage, she would have to look at the genetic patterns from her father or brother in order to get a genetic result about her father's side of the family.

Mitochondrial ... does not follow surnames. This test looks at a segment of DNA that is passed from a mother to all of her children, however, only her daughters pass it on to grandchildren. Every person has mtDNA and each person's mtDNA is identical to his or her mother's mtDNA, maternal grandmother's mtDNA, and so forth.

Autosomal ... is all about ethnicity. This test looks at specific ethnic markers within your DNA. The markers tested come from both parents and the test results will show how closely related you are to your identified matches. You will need to study each match to determine who the common ancestor is.

There are three major companies that offer DNA testing ... FamilyTreeDNA, AncestryDNA and 23andMe. Each company uses different markers in the testing process.

3 Ways to Use GEDmatch in Your DNA Research

from *GenealogyInsider* written by Diane Haddad blog.familytreemagazine.com/insider/2016/10/03

You've spent money on a DNA test for yourself and possibly one or more relatives, but what do you do with those results once you've got them? How can you wring every bit of knowledge out of those results and get the most for your money?

Third-party tools (many of which are free) give genealogists more ways of exploring and analyzing their DNA test results. DNA expert and author of *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy* Blaine Bettinger shares three ways you can analyze your results with GEDmatch, one of the most commonly used genetic genealogy tools:

Find genetic cousins in the GEDmatch database. Unless you've tested at all three testing companies (23andMe, AncestryDNA, and Family Tree DNA), your DNA isn't being compared to all test-takers. GEDmatch, however, has thousands of test results from each of the testing companies, allowing your DNA to be compared to the DNA of those who had their DNA tested by other companies. After you've uploaded your own raw data to GEDmatch, you can compare your DNA to all those test-takers and (hopefully) identify even more genetic cousins.

Identify shared segments of DNA. Not all the genetic genealogy testing companies provide information about shared segments. Each shared segment at GEDmatch, however, can be identified by chromosome number, start location, stop location, and total size. This can be helpful for genealogists interested in chromosome mapping and triangulation.

Analyze your DNA with other ethnicity calculators. Biogeographical estimates, also called "ethnicity" estimates, aren't an exact determination of your genealogical ethnicity. Instead, these calculations are just estimates based on imperfect modern-day populations. Accordingly, you shouldn't take these estimates to the bank.

Instead, look for patterns or trends among multiple ethnicity calculators at the testing companies and at GEDmatch, and focus on estimates at the continental level (Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe), which tend to be more accurate.

The following two pages of Quick References were provided by the speaker from the United States Army Heritage and Education Center to attendees of our recent conference "Mustering Up Your Family History"



Quick References

Suggested Key and Essential Websites:

US Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC): www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/

Integrated Library System (ILS) [electronic card catalog]: www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/ Click on *Library & Archives*; click on far right (blue) box, *USAWC Graduates and All Other Patrons*; looks complex – it isn't; click on *Search only the Library Catalog*

US Army Heritage and Education Center's Reference Bibliography for USAHEC's World War I Resources [937 pages]: www.armyheritage.org/links/links

Army Heritage Center Foundation (AHCF): www.armyheritage.org/

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA): www.archives.gov/

NARA "Veterans Pension Records": www.archives.gov/veterans/

NARA "Resources for Genealogists": www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/index.html

NARA "Access to Archival Databases" (ADD): <https://aad.archives.gov/aad/>

National Personnel Records Center (St. Louis) (NPRC): www.archives.gov/st-louis/

American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC): www.abmc.gov/

ABMC "Burials and Memorials": www.abmc.gov/database-search

World War I Draft Registration Cards on line: familysearch.org/search/collection/196530 [Free]

Suggested Published Sources Available at the USAHEC:

American Battle Monuments Commission. *American Armies and Battlefields in Europe: A History, Guide, and Reference Book*. 1938; revised and reprinted in 1992. **D528 .U5 1938**. 1992 reprint is available on line at: www.history.army.mil/html/books/023/23-24/

DeBruyne, Nese F. *Military Service Records and Unit Histories: A Guide to Locating Sources*. 2015. **UB163 .D43 2015**. Available on line.

Haulsee, William M. *Soldiers of the Great War*. 3 volumes. 1920. **D609.U6 S6 1920**

Johnson, Richard S. *How to Locate Anyone Who is Or Has Been in the Military*. 1996. **UA23 .J59 1996**

National Archives Trust Fund Board. *Military Service Records: A Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications*. 1985. **CD3027.M55**

Neagles, James C. *U.S. Military Records: A Guide to Federal and State Sources, Colonial America to the Present*. 1994. **Z1249.M5 N43 1994**

Schaefer, Christina K. *The Great War: A Guide to the Service Records of All the World's Fighting Men and Volunteers*. 1998. **CD3028 .S32 1998**

Stanton, Shelby L. *Order of Battle, U.S. Army, World War II*. 1984. **UA25.5 .S767 1984**. Reprinted in 1991 and again in 2006.

United States Army. Adjutant-General's Office. *World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing*. 3 volumes. 1946. **D797.U6 A44**. Available on line at: www.archives.gov/research/military/ww2/army-casualties/

United States Army. Center of Military History. *Order of Battle of the United States Land Forces in the World War*. 5 volumes. 1988. **D570.2 O72 1988**. Available on line at: www.history.army.mil/html/bookshelves/collect/oob_us_lf_wwi.html

Official History, World War I

US Army. Historical Division. *United States Army in the World War, 1917-1919*. 17 volumes. 1948.

D570.A4.U54. Available on line at:

http://www.history.army.mil/html/bookshelves/collect/oob_us_if_wwi_1917-1919.html

Official History, World War II (Often referred to as the “Green Books”)

US Army. Historical Division. *United States Army in World War II*. 79 volumes. 1947-1993. **D769.A533**.

Also available on line at: www.history.army.mil/html/bookshelves/collect/usaww2.html

Army Serial (Service) Numbers:

Army Regulations 615-30, *Army Serial Numbers*, July 1921 and February 1942 [Military Publications Holdings]

Army Patches/Distinctive Insignia:

Stein, Barry. *US Army Heraldic Crests: A Complete Illustrated History of Authorized Distinctive Unit Insignia*. 1993. **UC533 .S74 1993**.

Stein, Barry. *US Army Cloth Patches: An Illustrated Encyclopedia of Cloth Unit Insignia*. 1997. **UC533 .S745 1997**

Army Post Offices (APOs)

Army Postal Service. *Numerical Listing of APO's, January 1942-November 1947*. 1949. **UH83 .L58 1948** [Lists APOs in numerical order with their geographical locations arranged chronologically. Available on line.]

Army Postal Service. *Numerical Listing of APO's, January 1942-November 1947*. 1949. **UH83 .L582 1949** [List the cities or small islands at which APOs were located arranged in alphabetical order. Available on line.]

Shaffer, James. *Geographic Locations of U.S. APOs, 1941-1984*. 1985. **UZ203.G46 1985 Reference**

Tripp, A. J. *Locations and Assignments U.S. Army Post Offices, World War II*. 1947. **UH83.L63 1947**

Van Darn, Theodore. *The Postal History of the AEF, 1917-1923: A Handbook*. 1980. **UZ203. P6 1980**

Prologue Magazine [Published quarterly by the NARA; regular section – *Genealogy Notes* began with Summer 1989, Vol. 21, No. 2.]

Crosman, Kathleen. *The Army in the Woods: Records Recount Work of World War I Soldiers in Harvesting Spruce Trees for Airplanes*. Summer 2014, Vol. 46, No. 2, pp. 58-63. Available on line at: <https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2014/summer/woods.pdf>

Eisenberg, Norman. *20th-Century Veterans' Service Records Safe, Secure and Available*. Spring 2005, Vol. 37, No. 1. Available on line at: <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2005/spring/spotlight-nprc.html>

Heaps, Jennifer D. *World War II Prisoner-of-War Records*. Fall 1991, Vol. 23, No. 3, pp. 324-328.

Hull, Theodore J. *The World War II Army Enlistment Records File and Access to Archival Databases*. Spring 2006, Vol. 38, No. 1. Available on line at: <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2006/spring/aad-ww2.html>

Knapp, Michael G. *World War I Service Records*. Fall 1990, Vol. 22, No. 3, pp. 300-302.

Knapp, Michael G. and Potter, Constance. *Here Rests in Honored Glory: World War I Graves Registration*. Summer 1991, Vol. 23, No. 2, pp. 190-193.

Plante, Trevor K. *An Overview of Records at the National Archives Relating to Military Service*. Fall 2002, Vol. 34, No. 3. Available on line at: <http://www.archives.gov/research/military/veterans/prologue-military-records-overview.html>

Yockelson, Mitchell. *They Answered the Call: Military Service in the United States Army During World War I, 1917-1919*. Fall 1998, Vol. 30, No. 3. Available on line at: <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/fall/military-service-in-world-war-one.html>

Calendar of Local Events

2016 Genealogy Series

Cumberland County Historical Society
Todd Hall, 21 North Pitt Street, Carlisle [6-8 PM]
Are you interested in finding out about your ancestors? The fall series will open the doors to some brand new resources. Deborah Sweaney, local genealogist, will share her enthusiasm and the new resources she has discovered for genealogy. The series will be helpful for everyone, even if your ancestors were not from Cumberland County.

Monday, October 31

Genealogy Basics and Getting Started

Monday, November 7

The Internet has Changed Everything

Monday, November 14

Touching Paper and Smelling Dust Still Counts

Thursday, November 3

Don't Surf It; Sail It!: Using The Internet for Genealogy

LancasterHistory.org
230 N. President Ave, Lancaster [6:30-8:30 PM]
Instructor: Kevin Shue

Charting a course for discovering your family heritage involves more than just finding information on the internet. There are various types of websites that provide information or offer ways of organizing your genealogy research project. Learn how to use internet resources to help you with your genealogy. Social media will be discussed. Educational websites and services will help you become more genealogy savvy. Since this is an internet-based class, please bring your personal computer (laptop) or internet-enabled device with you to the class so that you may participate and get the most out of the class.

Pricing:

\$15 - Members of LancasterHistory.org

\$20 - Non-Members

Sunday, November 20

Legacy of Slavery in Maryland Project

Carroll County Genealogical Society
Dixon Room, Westminster Library,
50 East Main Street, Westminster [2 PM]

Speaker Alison Seyler will give a brief summary of and introduction to the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland Project at the Maryland State Archives. A team has worked with government records like wills and inventories as well as public records like census entries and newspapers to develop a website and database to help genealogists and historians discover the stories of slaves, free blacks, and slave owners. Ms. Seyler will speak about the methodology used for biographical research and detail the research projects currently underway, specifically one focused on digitizing and inventorying certificates of freedom and manumissions housed at the Archives.

Sunday, November 27

Obituaries – A Treasure Trove for Genealogists

Baltimore County Genealogical Society
The Parkville Senior Center, Room 308 (3rd Floor)
8601 Harford Road, Parkville [3 PM]

Adrian Gravelle will give a short history of obituaries, discuss their reliability and importance in genealogical research, techniques for finding obituaries on the internet, and understanding the wording.

Saturday, December 3 [Noon – 3 PM]

Finding World War I US Army Troop Ship Records

Maryland Genealogical Society Holiday Luncheon
Matthew's 1600, 1600 Frederick Road, Catonsville

Join us for a great Holiday Luncheon and hear about the wartime experiences of our ancestors 100 years ago. As we approach the Centennial of America's entry into The Great War, this presentation focuses on how one amateur genealogist used an assorted series of disparate facts, hints, educated guesses, and (mostly) dogged determination to find the records of his grandfather's deployment to and from Europe during the War. In the process, he learned about other available World War I records, many of them obscure, and how to access them.

Cost: \$35/MGS members; \$40/nonmembers

Registration Deadline: November 26, 2016

To register, visit the Maryland Genealogical Society's website: <http://www.mdgensoc.org/>

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Tips to Analyze Genealogical Evidence

Trying to keep inaccuracies and misattributed relatives away from your research? Before you're lured in by the excitement of a new discovery; take some time to ensure that those "facts" are safe. These measures will help:

- Examine the sources attached to the information. Do they support the researcher's conclusions? If not, or if you don't find attached sources, research the claims.
- Determine the validity of the source. Is it a primary record? An index? A transcription? The further you get from the original source, the more likely errors have been introduced.
- Evaluate the time between the event and when it was recorded. People relying on their memory of a date or place may not remember it accurately.

When ask about their biggest genealogy regrets, many researchers respond "not carefully evaluating and citing sources from the beginning." If you're just starting your research, you have the opportunity to avoid this regret, and if you've been at it awhile, it's not too late!

Cluster & Collateral Research

Although most genealogists are primarily interested in ancestors, searching for their friends and family can turn up unexpected results. You can use cluster and collateral research to answer questions such as:

- Where did my immigrant ancestor come from? When you can't find passenger lists or naturalization documents, a baptismal or other record for one of the immigrant's children might give the parents' birthplace.
- What is my female ancestor's maiden name? Identifying her siblings and researching their records might reveal parents' names on a death certificate, Social Security application (aka SS-5) or other record.
- Whatever happened to my ancestor? If an older parent disappears from records, follow each child in sources such as censuses and city directories. You may find the person misindexed in a child's household. Or, if the kids lived elsewhere, check those places for a death certificate.

Genealogy Tips from Diane Haddad
[newsletter@familytreecommunity.com]